860 Kensington Road

1775
Isaac Norton Sr 1680-1763) & Elizabeth Galpin (1684-1771) leaves property to son. Isaac Norton Jr. (1713-1751) & Sarah Seymour (1720-1788)
In 1800 property sold to Barnabus Dunham (1736-1826) & Martha Cowles (1748-1821). In 1814 to son Gideon Dunham (1778-1857) & 1st wife Theodosia Woodruff (1782-1832) & 2nd wife Mary Lewis (11795-1875).
federal

1935 Susqui-Centennial Celebration of the Town of Berlin – Berlin Old Houses.

1775 Gideon Dunham current owner: Lucius Dean Kensington Road

1985 Townwide Historic and Architectural Survey of Berlin, Connecticut. 072

1800 Barnabus Dunham current owner: Fern & George Wilcox federal

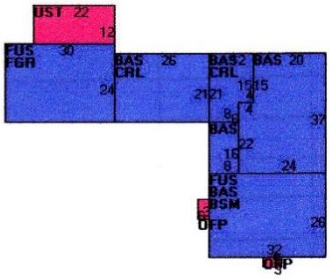
Historically, the house is significant as a house probably built by Isaac Norton, member of a prominent local family and in the mid 18th century the largest single taxpayer in Kensington.

Norton died in 1750 and left the property to his son, Isaac Norton Jr. In 1800, the property was purchased by Barnabus Dunham, the largest property holder listed in Kensington in the 1790 U.S. census. Barnabus Dunham deeded the property to his son Gideon in 1814. Gideon lived there until his death in 1857.

2018 Town of Berlin GIS Index.

1800 current owner: John & Cynthia Haggerty

Sketch



Genealogy
Isaac Norton (1680-1763) son of John Norton & Ruth Moore. He married Elizabeth Galpin (1684-1771). He is buried in Maple Cemetery. Their son Isaac Norton Jr inherited the property.
Isaac Norton Jr (1713-1751) married Sarah Seymour (1720-1788). Isaac Jr inherited the property at 680 Kensington Rd. In 1800 Barnabus Dunham purchased the house.
Barnabus Dunham (1736-1826) son of Gideon Dunham & Mary Lewis. He married Martha Cowles (1748-1821). Their son Gideon Dunham inherited the house in 1814. Gideon Dunham (1778-1857) married 1st to Theodosia Woodruff (1782-1832). He married 2nd to Mary Lewis (1795-1875)

HISTORIC RESOURCES INVENTORY
BUILDING AND STRUCTURES
HIST-6 NEW 5/77

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
CONNECTICUT HISTORICAL COMMISSION
59 SOUTH PROSPECT STREET, HARTFORD, CONNECTICUT 06106
(203) 566-3005

#072

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY
Town No.: | Site No.:
UTM
QUAD:
DISTRICT ☐ S ☐ NR | IF NR, SPECIFY ☐ Actual ☐ Potential

IDENTIFICATION

1. BUILDING NAME (Common) | (Historic) Isaac Norton House
2. TOWN/CITY: Berlin | VILLAGE: Kensington | COUNTY: Hartford
3. STREET AND NUMBER (and/or location): 860 Kensington Road]5-3/7]/]4
4. OWNER(S): Wilcox, Fern W. & George Jr. " " Kensington 06037 ☐ Public ☒ Private
5. USE (Present): Residence | (Historic): Residence
6. ACCESSIBILITY TO PUBLIC: EXTERIOR VISIBLE FROM PUBLIC ROAD ☒ Yes ☐ No | INTERIOR ACCESSIBLE ☐ Yes ☒ No | IF YES, EXPLAIN

DESCRIPTION

7. STYLE OF BUILDING: Vernacular | DATE OF CONSTRUCTION: c.]740
8. MATERIAL(S) (Indicate use or location when appropriate)
☒ Clapboard ☐ Asbestos Siding ☐ Brick ☐ Other (Specify) _____
☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Asphalt Siding ☐ Fieldstone
☐ Board & Batten ☐ Stucco ☐ Cobblestone
☐ Aluminum Siding ☐ Concrete Type: _____ ☐ Cut stone Type: _____
9. STRUCTURAL SYSTEM
☒ Wood frame ☐ Post and beam ☐ balloon
☐ Load bearing masonry ☐ Structural iron or steel
☐ Other (Specify) _____
10. ROOF (Type)
☐ Gable ☐ Flat ☐ Mansard ☐ Monitor ☐ sawtooth
☐ Gambrel ☐ Shed ☐ Hip ☐ Round ☐ Other (Specify) _____
(Material)
☐ Wood Shingle ☐ Roll Asphalt ☐ Tin ☐ Slate ☐ Gable end to the street
☒ Asphalt shingle ☐ Built up ☐ Tile ☐ Other (Specify) _____ ☐ Ridge parallel to the street
11. NUMBER OF STORIES: 2 1/2 | APPROXIMATE DIMENSIONS: 33' x 27'
12. CONDITION (Structural): ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated | (Exterior): ☐ Excellent ☒ Good ☐ Fair ☐ Deteriorated
13. INTEGRITY (Location): ☒ On original site ☐ Moved | WHEN? | (Alterations): ☒ Yes ☐ No | IF YES, EXPLAIN: one chimney top removed
14. RELATED OUTBUILDINGS OR LANDSCAPE FEATURES
☒ Barn ☐ Shed ☐ Garage ☐ Other landscape features or buildings (Specify)
☐ Carriage house ☐ Shop ☐ Garden
15. SURROUNDING ENVIRONMENT
☐ Open land ☐ Wood-land ☒ Residential ☒ Scattered buildings visible from site
☐ Commercial ☐ Indus-trial ☒ Rural ☐ High building density
16. INTERRELATIONSHIP OF BUILDING AND SURROUNDINGS
In a lightly settled area south of Kensington town center.

(OVER)

072

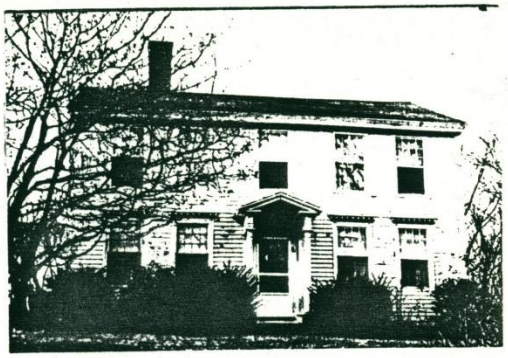
PHOTO

PHOTOGRAPHER: HRC
DATE: 11/84
VIEW: W
NEGATIVE ON FILE: H-3

COMPILED BY

NAME: Historic Resource Consultants
DATE: 12/84
ORGANIZATION: The Colt Armory
ADDRESS: Hartford, CT 06106

20 SUBSEQUENT FIELD EVALUATION:



DESCRIPTION (Continued)

17 OTHER NOTABLE FEATURES OF BUILDING OR SITE (interior and/or exterior)

The Isaac Norton House has a five-bay facade with a central entry. The ent has a later door with small-pane glazing and an original leaded radial-glazed semi-elliptical fanlight. The entry portico, supported on Tuscan columns, features a drilled soffit, a fluted architrave, incised circles on the frieze and under the eaves, and a molded cornice with a partial return across the open pediment. Windows are fitted with old 12-over-12 sash; first-floor windows on the facade and all principal windows on side elevations have projecting molded caps with modillions above a dentil course. Facade windows are paired and offset towards the corners of the house; second-floor windows are located immediately under the dentil course of the roof's modillioned cornice.

(continued)

18 ARCHITECT

BUILDER

SIGNIFICANCE

19 HISTORICAL OR ARCHITECTURAL IMPORTANCE

Architecturally, this house is significant as a well-preserved and finely detailed example of the Federal style, one of the best of its type in Berlin. The basic form of the building shows its 18th-century origins. The paired, offset windows, the location of the second-floor windows under the eaves, and the ridge-parallel-to-street orientation are all typical features. The central hall plan was uncommon in isolated locations such as Berlin before 1800, but its appearance on this richly-detailed house is not necessarily inconsistent with a mid-18th-century origin. The radial-glazed fanlight and the delicately scaled window and portico ornament are typical of the Federal or Adam style. Their use here reflect the high social status of the owner.

Historically, the house is significant as a house probably built by Isaac Norton, member of a prominent local family and in the mid 18th century the largest single taxpayer in Kensington.

(continued)

SOURCES

1855 Atlas
1869 Atlas
Bicentennial Papers
Communication from owner

Isaac Norton House

17) (cont) A single brick chimney is offset to the left; the right chimney remains in place but has been removed at the roofline. Side elevations have semi-circular attic windows with radial glazing. A framed-in porch on the left connects the house to a 19th-century garage/stable wing.

19) (cont)

Norton died in 1750 and left the property to his son, Isaac Norton Jr. In 1800, the property was purchased by Barnabus Dunham, the largest property holder listed in Kensington in the 1790 U.S. census. Barnabus Dunham deeded the property to his son Gideon in 1814. Gideon lived there until his death in 1857.